

## Background information

Since June 2013, UNHCR has been piloting a system to assess spontaneous returns in the Southeast of Myanmar, a process that may start in the absence of an organized Voluntary Repatriation operation. A **verified return village**, therefore, is a village where UNHCR field staff have confirmed there are refugees and/or IDPs who have returned since January 2012 with the intention of remaining permanently. During the assessments, communities are also asked whether their village is a **refugee village of origin**, by definition a village that is home to people residing in a refugee camp in Thailand. A village where UNHCR completes an assessment can be both a verified return village and a refugee village of origin, as the two are not mutually exclusive.

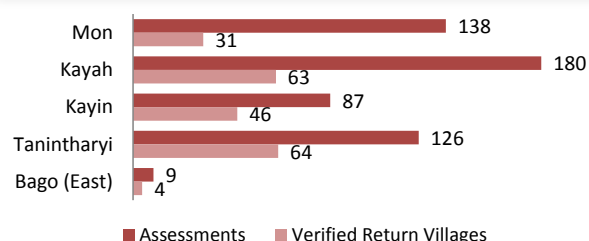
Using a “do no harm” approach based around community level discussion, the return assessment collect information about the patterns and needs of returnees in the Southeast. The project does not, however, attempt to represent the total number of returnees in a state, or the region as a whole. The returnee monitoring project has been underway in Kayah State, Mon State and Tanintharyi Region since June 2013, and expanded to Kayah State in December 2013.

Total Assessments 540

Verified Return Villages 208

Refugee Villages of Origin 330

### Verified Return Villages by State/Region



### No. of Returnees in assessed villages by State/Region

State	IDP Returnee		Refugee Returnee	
	HH	Individuals	HH	Individuals
Mon	240	1341	26	87
Kayah	295	1586	129	271
Kayin	480	2422	305	1469
Tanintharyi	782	4362	449	1313
Bago (East)	76	394	3	14
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1873</b>	<b>10105</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>3154</b>

### No. of Verified Return Villages by Type

State	IDP Returnee	Refugee Returnee	Both IDP & Refugee Returnee
Mon	17	10	4
Kayah	9	44	10
Kayin	3	34	9
Tanintharyi	13	45	6
Bago (East)	2	2	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>29</b>

### Verified Return Villages by Type

